

LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1900.

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Prepared in accordance with Sec. 14 of the order of the Local Government Board, dated 23rd March, 1891, Regulating the Duties of Medical Officers of Health.

LEATHERHEAD :

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LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health, with regard to the Year, 1900.

1.—Vital Statistics : Births and Deaths.

1. The POPULATION of the district at the Census, 1881, was 3533, and at the Census, 1891, it was 4305. Assuming that it has increased at the same rate since the census 1891 as it did during the preceding decade, it may be estimated at 5100 persons in the middle of the year under review.

2. The number of BIRTHS registered in the district during the year was 103 (as against 116 in the previous year), which represents a BIRTH-RATE of 20·2 per 1000 of the estimated population. (See also Table I. at the end of the report.)

3. The number of DEATHS registered in the district during the year was 60 (as against 61 in the previous year), to which must be added 13 deaths in the Epsom Workhouse, in the Joint Isolation Hospital, and in the County Asylum, of persons belonging to the district. This gives a total of 73 deaths (as against 71 in the previous year), which represents an ANNUAL DEATH-RATE of 13·9 per 1000 of the estimated population.

4. As to the INFANT MORTALITY. The deaths, during the year, of INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR, were eleven in number (as against twenty-one in the previous year), and were at the rate of 107 per 1000 births registered.

5. The deaths from PULMONARY CONSUMPTION were 11 in number (as against 5 in the previous year), and were at the rate of about 2·0 per 1000 of the population, which is above the previous average rate.

6. The deaths from OTHER LUNG DISEASES (pleurisy, pneumonia and bronchitis), were 10 in number (as against 6 in the previous year), and were at the rate of 2·0 per 1000 of the population.

7. INFLUENZA was unusually prevalent, and caused five deaths.

II.—Summary of Sickness and Mortality during the year, from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from certain other diseases which have to be notified under the 'Infectious Diseases' (Notification) Act, 1889, and of the Action taken for preventing their spread.

1.—SMALL POX.—No case of this disease was reported.

2.—WHOOPIING COUGH caused no death.

3.—MEASLES were not very prevalent, and caused no death.

4.—As will be seen on reference to Table III. at the end of the Report, SCARLET FEVER (otherwise called SCARLATINA), was more or less prevalent during the whole of the year, and, altogether, 60 cases were notified in 47 houses. Fifty-six of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital, where one of them died. No other case ended fatally. All the Public Elementary Schools were closed by the Managers from November 27th till the end of the year, as a precaution against the further spread of the disease.

5.—DIPHTHERIA.—In *May*, a child came from Essex to a house in Church Road, ill with what proved to be Diphtheria, and in the same month, a woman, while on a visit from Hastings, was attacked with it in Clinton Road. In *August*, a child living near Church Road was attacked with Diphtheria, and the probable source of the infection was not traceable. In *September*, a child, living in North Street, failed with the disease six days after her return home from the Isolation Hospital, in which she had been under treatment for Scarlet Fever; and, in the same month, a girl was attacked with it in St. John's Road, two days after her arrival from Brixton. One of the patients was removed to the hospital. None of the illnesses ended fatally.

6.—ENTERIC, (otherwise called TYPHOID), FEVER. In October, a case of this fever was notified in a cottage near Highlands Park. The patient came there ill from Chiswick in September, and was not at first suspected to be suffering from this disease, but the diagnosis was confirmed by the Widal test. On about October 12th, two children in a cottage on Leatherhead Common were attacked with this fever, and, about the middle of November, their mother failed with the disease, and was removed to the Leatherhead Cottage Hospital. For some weeks before the commencement of these three illnesses the drains of this house and of the adjoining cottages had been blocked with sewage, and the contents of the cesspool had been running over the ground. On November 7th, a young man arrived in London, from Canada, and came on the 12th to his home on the Kingston Road, ill with what proved to be Typhoid Fever. On November 17th, he was removed to the Cottage Hospital.

7.—DIARRHŒA caused two deaths.

The *Total Deaths* from these seven diseases were 3, viz: one from Scarlet Fever and two from Diarrhœa, which represent an Annual Zymotic Death-Rate of 0·6 per 1000 of the population.

As regards the other Infectious Diseases to which the above-mentioned Act applies:—

Of ERYSIPELAS, six cases were notified in six houses: none of them ended fatally.

Of PUERPERAL FEVER, no case was notified.

Of MEMBRANOUS CROUP, no case was notified.

Of CONTINUED FEVER, no case was notified.

The following further *action* was taken for preventing the spread of some of these diseases:—The houses infected with Scarlet Fever, Erysipelas, Diphtheria, or Enteric Fever, were visited and were supplied, in some instances, with disinfectants for daily use during illness; isolation of the sick was inculcated and was assisted by the removal of fifty-seven to the Joint Isolation Hospital; a sanitary inspection of the premises was made and all nuisances and defects, that were discovered, were remedied as far as was practicable; the well-water, when suspected, was analysed; and, after the recovery or removal of the sick, the infected rooms and their contents were cleansed and disinfected, in most instances after service of notice by the Inspector. Infected articles were removed from the houses of the poor, and were disinfected at the Isolation Hospital at the expense of the District Council, or were destroyed and compensation was given.

During the year, the Joint Hospital Board, having obtained the sanction of the Local Government Board, made good progress with the task of erecting another Ward-Pavilion, and providing other additional accommodation at their Hospital.

TABLE, showing the number of persons admitted into the Joint Isolation Hospital, during the year, from the several districts forming the United District.

Disease.	Sutton Urban District	Carshalton Urban District	Epsom Rural District.	Leatherhead Urban District	Total in 1900	Total in 1899	Total in 1898
Scarlet Fever	99	12	85	56	252	229	102
Diphtheria	4	10	8	1	23	56	68
Enteric Fever	2	3	1	—	6	3	5

PULMONARY CONSUMPTION. During the year specimens of the material expectorated by two persons in the district who were suspected to be suffering from this disease, were sent me by Medical Practitioners, and were examined, at the expense of the District Council, by the Jenner Institute, who reported that the bacillus tuberculosis was found in one specimen but not in the other.

Rooms, vacated by consumptive patients, were disinfected, free of charge, at two houses.

1.—As to the BYELAWS RELATING TO NEW BUILDINGS.—The following figures have been furnished me by the Surveyors who were then in office:

	In 1886	In 1887	In 1888	In 1889	In 1890	In 1891	In 1892	In 1893	In 1894	In 1895	In 1896	In 1897	In 1898	In 1899	In 1900
Number of new buildings and of additions to buildings for which plans were submitted for approval under the Byelaws.....	5	8	10	7	6	4	6	10	No return.	17	23	30	45	44	25
Number of times that legal proceedings were taken for breach of the Byelaws.....	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	No return.	none	none	none	none	none	none

2.—The District Council undertook the REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE, as in previous years, by their own staff of men.

3.—The District Council, themselves, again undertook, instead of contracting for, the systematic CLEANSING OF TUB CLOSETS, of which about 680 were attended to every week. The Tubs were taken in covered vans to the depôt, in a field near Barnett Wood Lane, and, after they had been emptied and cleansed, a given quantity of Acidulated Peat Moss was put into each tub (as is practised at Congleton), to prepare them for further use. This was found to have a marked effect in deodorising the excreta while the tubs were in use at the closets. The Council also undertook the emptying of *Cesspools*, the contents of which were first deodorised with an acid solution of Manganate of Soda.

4.—As to the proposed WORKS OF SEWERAGE and SEWAGE DISPOSAL. Good progress was made with the task of laying the sewers in the district and with the outfall works.

5.—As to NUISANCES. The Sanitary Inspector's statement of the nuisances which were discovered (some of them in the course of a house-to-house inspection), and which were dealt with during the year, is given on page 6.

6.—As to WATER SUPPLY. Two samples of water, which were sent me from a well in the district, were examined, with the result shown in the following table :

When the Samples were sent. 1900.	Source of the Samples.	The Water was found to be.	Action taken.
July 6	Pump, Bridge Street	Very Impure	The well was cleaned out.
July 17	Same Pump	Ditto	Water was laid on from Company's Main.

A report on a sample of water from the Leatherhead Water Works, which was submitted by the Company to the Jenner Institute in November for chemical and bacterioscopic examination, was very satisfactory.

7.—The Inspector informs me that the SLAUGHTER-HOUSES and the premises of the registered COWKEEPERS AND PURVEYORS OF MILK were regularly inspected during the year.

8.—Tables of Sickness and Mortality, in the *new form* prescribed by the Local Government Board, are appended to the Report.

E. L. JACOB.

17, *Spencer Park*,

Wandsworth Common, S.W.

January, 1901.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st. 1900.

Number of Complaints received in writing	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Premises inspected under Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1875	...	...	...	...	597
Number of Nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	148
Ditto remedied without being reported	...	...	...	...	147
Ditto reported to the Sanitary Authority	...	...	...	...	1
Ditto remedied after report	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Notices (Statutory or Preliminary) served for the Abatement of Nuisances	...	...	...	...	33

Particulars of work done by owners or occupiers, for the Abatement of Nuisances, in compliance with notice :—

Number of privies, cesspools, ditches, pools, watercourses, urinals, ashpits, and drains, <i>cleansed</i> , and number of deposits <i>removed</i>	...	...	...	...	13
Number of old privies re-constructed, as water-closets	...	...	...	...	—
Number of old privies re-constructed, with small watertight vaults or with pails	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Premises at which the drains were re-constructed, ventilated, trapped or disconnected from the house-pipes or rain-water pipes	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Premises at which new drains or cesspools were provided under Sec. 23 or Sec. 95.	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Premises from which animals, improperly kept, were removed	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Houses which were provided with efficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Houses at which injurious overcrowding was abated	...	...	...	...	—
Number of damp, unwholesome Houses which were repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Number of filthy Houses which were cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	10
Legal proceedings taken, under Sec. 96, for abatement of nuisances (number of times)	...	...	...	...	—
Houses condemned by the Justices as unfit for human habitation under Section 97.	...	...	...	...	—

Number of Samples of Water sent to the Medical Officer of Health for Analysis	...	...	...	...	2
„ Wells permanently or temporarily closed, after notice, under Section 70 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as unfit for drinking or domestic purposes	...	...	...	...	—
„ Houses to which water was supplied by owners of premises after notice under Section 62 of that Act	...	...	...	...	2

TABLE I.

[Form issued by the Local Government Board.]

Year.	POPULATION estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		Deaths in Public Institu- tions.	Deaths of Non- residents register'd in District.	Deaths of Resid'nts register'd beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NETT.	
		Num- ber.	Rate. °	Num- ber.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Num- ber.	Rate. °				Num- ber.	Rate. °
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1890	4270	87	20.4	8	92	47	11.0			10	57	13.3
1891	4350	117	26.9	9	77	53	12.2			6	59	13.5
1892	4400	97	22.0	8	82	54	12.3			6	60	13.6
1893	4500	107	23.8	18	168	50	11.1			4	54	12.0
1894	4550	95	20.8	17	179	55	12.1			2	57	12.5
1895	4600	104	22.6	7	67	47	10.2			4	51	11.1
1896	4700	81	17.2	12	148	43	9.2			6	49	10.4
1897	4800	101	21.0	9	89	41	8.6			10	51	10.6
1898	4900	101	20.6	18	178	59	12.0			2	61	12.4
1899	5000	116	23.2	21	181	61	12.2			10	71	14.2
Aver- ages for years 1890 -99.	4610	101	21.9	13	126	51	11.1			6	57	12.3
1900.	5100	103	20.2	11	107	60	11.7	1	0	13	73	13.9

° Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of the table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Total populations at "....."		...4,305.	} At Census of 1891.
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	} 3508	Number of inhabited houses.....779.	
		Average number of persons per house ...5.5.	

TABLE II.

(Form issued by the Local Government Board).

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1900.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital from the District. (All Ages.)
	At all Ages.	At Ages+—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwds.	
Small-pox... ..								
Cholera								
Diphtheria	5	—	2	2	—	1	—	1
Membranous Croup								
Erysipelas... ..	6	—	—	1	—	4	1	—
Scarlet fever	60	—	17	34	7	2	—	56
Typhus fever								
Enteric fever	5	—	—	2	2	1	—	2
Relapsing fever								
Continued fever								
Puerperal fever								
Totals	76	—	19	39	9	8	1	59

NOTE.—The Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the district, is the Joint Isolation Hospital on Cuddington Downs, in the Epsom Rural District; but the two cases of Enteric Fever were removed to the Leatherhead Cottage Hospital.

TABLE III

Shewing the number of houses invaded, and of persons attacked in the district, (exclusive of Public Institutions), by the undermentioned Zymotic Diseases in each month of the year 1900, and in the ten preceding years.

MONTHS.	Small Pox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria.			Typhoid Fever.			Continued Fever.		Membranous Croup.		Erysipelas.		Puerperal Fever
	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	Cases.	Houses Invaded.	
January				2	2	1											1	1	
February				10	4	10													
March				6	6	4											1	1	
April				2	2	1											2	2	
May				4	3	5	2	2									1	1	
June				5	4	4													
July				5	5	6													
August				1	1	1	1	1											
September				2	2	3	2	2	1										
October				4	4	4				3	2								
November				13	11	10				2	1	2					1	1	
December				7	3	8													
Total in 1900				60	47	56	5	5	1	5	3	2					6	6	
Total in 1899				19	14	15	7	4	3	3	3				1	1	1	1	
Total in 1898				4	4	3	1	1		2	2								
Total in 1897				42	26	34	6	5	4	3	3								
Total in 1896				19	14	12	12	10	3	3	3								
Total in 1895				3	3	2	9	6									2	2	
Total in 1894				1	1		3	3		3	2						3	3	
Total in 1893				8	6	4	4	3	2	3	2				1	1			
Total in 1892				30	19	7	6	5							3	3	2	2	
Total in 1891				1	1		7	4	4								1	1	
Total in 1890							2	2		1	1								

NOTE.—The Infectious Diseases' (Notification) Act has been in force in the parish since 1890.

TABLE IV.

[Form issued by the Local Government Board.]

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1900.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Deaths in Public Institu- tions.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Measles								
Scarlet fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping-cough								
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup								
Croup								
Fever { Typhus								
Enteric								
Other continued								
Epidemic influenza	5	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Cholera								
Plague								
Diarrhoea	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever								
Erysipelas								
Other septic diseases... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis	11	...	...	1	3	7	...	1
Other tubercular diseases	3	1	...	2	...	...	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease	6	..	...	...	...	5	1	1
Bronchitis	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	8	2	5	...	...	1	...	...
Pleurisy								
Other diseases of Respiratory organs								
Alcoholism	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of liver }								
Venereal diseases								
Premature birth								
Diseases and accidents of parturition								
Heart diseases	5	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
Accidents ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Rheumatic fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
All other causes	25	5	3	1	1	7	8	6
All causes	78	11	9	5	5	27	16	14

